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(b) whether it is a fact that the Government have formulated a scheme to improve its condition and when ; and

(c) if the answer is in the affirmative, why that scheme has not yet been put into execution ?

A.—The Government have no information.

Mr. Muhammad Yahya Ali Sahib :—" Will the Government be pleased to furnish an answer to clauses (b) and (c) of question No. 255 ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" The answer given ought to have been to question No. 255 (b) ; and it has been taken for granted that the Government have not been made aware of any such inconvenience that it might be remedied."

The Patha-Cuddapah tank.

256 Q.—Mr. K. Abdul Hye Sahib : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Patha-Cuddapah tank, one of the biggest irrigation tanks in the district of Cuddapah fed by the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal, is so badly silted up that its storage capacity has been reduced by more than half ;

(b) whether the Government have received any memorial on the subject ; and

(c) if so, what action the Government propose to take thereon ?

A.—(a) & (b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is in this connexion drawn to the answer to question No. 131.

Irrigation projects.

257 Q.—Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(1) the names of irrigation projects which have been under consideration during the last 25 years ;

(2) how many of them were carried out and the cost of each ; and

(3) how many were given up and for what reasons ?

A.—The hon. Member's attention is invited to the Report on Irrigation Projects by Mr. F. E. Morgan, Executive Engineer, Projects division, which was placed on the Council Table. If details are required on any specific project, they will be furnished.

The bigger channels in the Trichinopoly district.

258 Q.—Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the amount of expenditure incurred in regard to the bigger channels in the Trichinopoly district for the last five years under the following heads :—

(a) names of the channels,

(b) repair charges for korambu,

(c) silt clearance, and

(d) masonry and other works along the courses of the channels ?

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A.—The Government have no information but will call for it, if names of the channels for which information is required be specified.

The Ponneri channel.

259 *Q.*—Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the present stage in the powers of shifting of the head of the Ponneri channel three miles up the Coleroon river;

(*b*) the cost of the latest revised estimate;

(*c*) the amount expended up to date;

(*d*) the probable extent of additional lands that would be brought under cultivation by this work; and

(*e*) the estimated additional revenue therefrom?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The latest revised estimate sanctioned for improvements to the Ponneri channel amounts to Rs. 2,22,000 and fair progress has been made on the work. Information regarding actual expenditure incurred on the work up to date is not available but the expenditure to end of November 1923 amounts to Rs. 1,63,772.

(*d*) & (*e*) The work is intended chiefly to ensure a proper supply for the channel all the year round, and no large extension of cultivation has been contemplated.

Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR:—"With regard to the answer to question No. 259 (*a*) and (*b*), are we to understand, Sir, that the work thus far has been a failure?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Hardly."

The Kannambadi Arbitration affair.

260 *Q.*—Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how the present position of the Kannambadi Arbitration affair stands;

(*b*) who were the officers deputed to consider the question of compromise of the dispute between the Madras and the Mysore Governments regarding the Dam;

(*c*) at what places they met;

(*d*) what were the decisions arrived at or the proposals advanced by them at each place of meetings;

(*e*) whether the Government have considered the necessity of obtaining the opinion of the leading ryots of the districts affected by the construction of the above Dam before any compromise is arrived at;

(*f*) if the answer to clause (*e*) is in the affirmative, whether the Government will be pleased to call for a conference of the leading ryots of the districts concerned to consider the question of compromise and also to give publicity to the terms of compromise in all the leading newspapers of Madras and the districts concerned;